

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the outstanding Office Action dated September 13, 2002.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-6 have been canceled and replaced with new claim 7 in order to overcome the rejection.

Further, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Hyman et al. Nevertheless, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn in light of the following reasons.

Hyman et al discloses a releasable cord connection apparatus for a window covering, the apparatus comprising: a plurality of receptive members coupled to a headrail, each receptive member having a recess; a plurality of connective members each having a first end releasably inserted into a recess of one of said plurality of receptive members and a second end connecting to an end of a cord of a plurality of cords, each of said plurality of connective members releasing from said receptive members when a force is applied to the cord connecting to a respective connective member. Nevertheless, this reference fails to disclose a blind lift rod locking structure which comprises a locking plate having a hole for one end of a lift cord to be tied in, said hole being in form of a triangle up side down, said plate having a cut at a lower end of said hole, two end surfaces respectively formed on both sides of said cut where said end of said lift cord is tied and fixed in said hole, a fixation plate connected to said locking plate and having a slot, and a seat engaged with said hole of said locking plate for fixing said fixation plate to a head rail, whereby when a pulling force applied to said lift cord is greater than a predetermined value, said cut is forced to open up to release said lift cord from said locking plate thereby preventing accident due to a tangle of said lift cord. Hence, this reference can be clearly

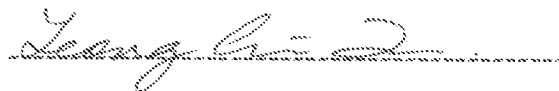
distinguished from the present invention.

Accordingly, the disclosure fails to teach a blind lift rod locking structure as claimed in new claim 7. It is undoubtedly that this characteristic of the present invention involves the inventive step required by the Patent Law. Furthermore, the disclosure of the cited reference fails to teach each and every element of the claimed invention and so the subject matter sought to be patented as a whole would not have been anticipated by the cited reference...

The applicant has reviewed the prior art as cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection and believes that the new claim clearly and distinctly patentably defines over such prior art.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition of allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Leong C. Lei', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Signature

Leong C. Lei

Registration No. 50402

August 18, 2006